

# The words you are known by: To Mitt Romney on the eve of his national convention, a cento

*by* Michael Parker

I should tell my story.

No one has ever asked to see  
my birth certificate. They know  
this is the place we were born -- in  
an America where millions  
of Americans believe in  
an America that is  
the America millions  
of Americans believe in.

"Oh beautiful for spacious skies  
for amber waves of grain"  
sing it with me  
"for purple mountains majesty  
above the fruited plains."

I'm also unemployed. I wondered  
whether I was going to get a pink slip.  
I get speaker's fees from time to time,  
but not very much. Ann drives a couple  
of Cadillacs, actually. I've got a lot  
of good friends -- the owner  
of the Miami Dolphins and

the New York Jets. For 25 years,  
I lived and breathed jobs,  
business, and the economy.  
I had successes and failures,  
but each step of the way,  
I'll take a lot of credit  
for this industry's come back.

I'm not a business.  
Corporations are people,  
my friend...[and] banks  
aren't bad people.  
I like to fire people.  
I'm not concerned about  
the very poor. You are  
paying all the taxes  
creating all the jobs  
raising all the children.

If they want more stuff,  
tell them to go vote  
for the other guy —  
more free stuff.

I'll tell you what, Rick,  
ten-thousand bucks?  
[But] let Detroit go  
bankrupt. I'm running  
for office for Pete's sake,  
we can't have illegals.  
The answer is self-  
deportation, which is people  
decide they can do better  
by going home.

Who let the dogs out?  
Who? who? who?

He says we need more firemen,  
more policemen, more teachers.  
Did he not get the message  
of Wisconsin? It's time to stop  
the spread of government  
dependency and fight it  
like the poison that it is.

Planned Parenthood?  
We're going to get rid of it.  
Borrow money, if you have to,  
from your parents. It's just not  
worth moving heaven and earth,  
spending billions of dollars  
trying to catch one person.

That's the position I've had  
for some time  
and I don't  
intend to make  
any adjustments  
at this point  
Or ever.

It's hard to know how well it will turn out --  
sperm and egg unite, something goes  
from inanimate to animate;  
the trees are the right height  
the grass is the right color  
and the skies are cloudy  
all day. I saw my father  
march with Martin Luther King.

I have learned from Olympic  
experience [so] I stand  
ready to lead us down  
a different path. It's time for  
us to cut back on government,  
look at what the president's done  
and do the opposite.

You can't learn that  
teaching Constitutional  
law. I'm not familiar  
precisely  
with what I said, but  
I'll stand by what I said,  
whatever it was.

[Now] if you want to speak,  
you can speak.  
But not right now,  
it's my turn.

